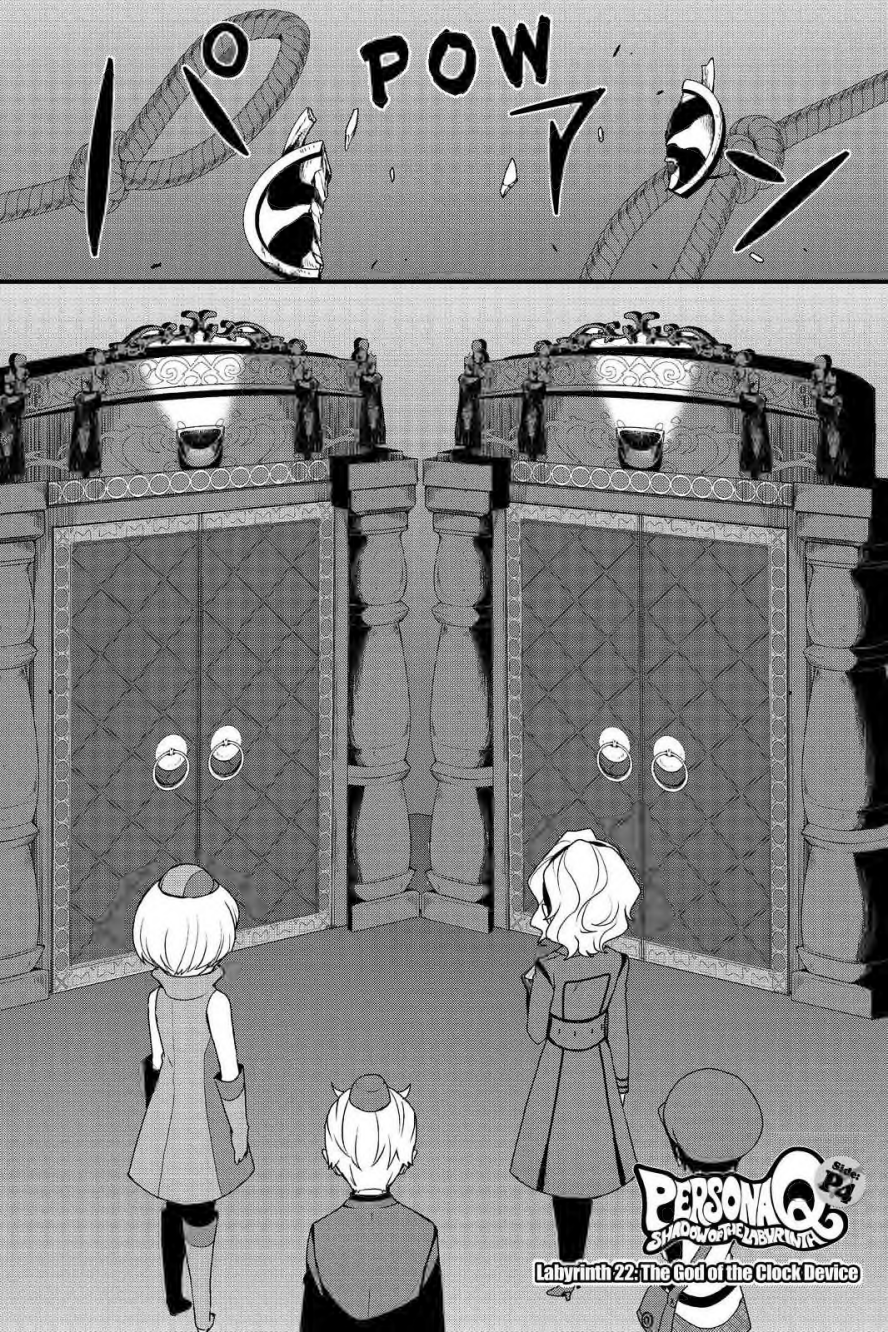
WHY DID I HAVE TO BE BORN?!
I HAVE NOTHING! NO FRIENDS, NO PARENTS— NOT EVEN MY HEALTH!!
WHAT WAS THE POINT IN MY LIFE?!
YASOGAMI... HIGH. THIS IS THE SCHOOL... I WOULD HAVE GONE TO.
I DON'T WANT TO SEE THIS...!!
IN MY SURPRISE, I TOOK HER MEMORIES FROM HER...
WITH THAT, SHE TRIED TO GOUGE OUT HER OWN EYES.

...THEN I SEALED THEM AWAY WITH MY OWN, AND DECIDED TO STAY HERE WITH HER.

YOU HEARD THE BELL.
THE FOURTH LOCK ON THE VELVET ROOM DOORS SHOULD BE BROKEN NOW.
YOU SHOULD GO HOME... WHILE YOU STILL CAN.
WE HAVE TO GO FIND HER AND SETTLE ALL THIS, EVEN IF IT MEANS DRAGGING YOU ALONG, KICKING AND SCREAMING.
THAT AIN'T WHAT WE'RE ASKING, DUDE.
YOU'LL... COME WITH ME?
YOU HAVE TO ASK?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PERSONA Q
SHADOW OF THE LABYRINTH
SIDE: P4
Labyrinth 22: The God of the Clock Device

キィィ
CHIRP
THIS DOOR LEADS TO MY GUEST'S WORLD...
...AND THIS DOOR LEADS TO MY GUEST'S WORLD.
ZEN-SAN... TO THINK HIS REAL NAME WAS CHRONOS...
WHAT? DOES THAT MEAN SOMETHING?
MANY PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT THEY ARE TAKEN TO THE LAND OF THE DEAD THROUGH THE GUIDANCE OF A HIGHER POWER.
THE VARIOUS IMAGES OF THAT "GUIDE" HAVE COME TOGETHER TO CREATE BEINGS WHO SERVE THE ROLE OF DEATH.
THAT YOUNG MAN IS ONE SUCH BEING.

NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY THIS PLACE IS HAVING A CULTURE FESTIVAL.
FESTIVALS WERE ORIGINALLY CEREMONIES. RITUAL PRACTICES TO PUT SOULS TO REST.
REI-SAN'S SPIRIT WANDERED INTO THIS HAVEN IN THE RIFT BEFORE IT FADED AWAY.
BECAUSE SHE WAS UNABLE TO ESCAPE DEATH, EVEN IN THIS ILLUSION, SHE NEED THIS CEREMONY TO CALM HER, TO BRING HER COMFORT.
I WILL BE WAITING FOR THAT TIME TO COME...
WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE YOUR GUESTS WILL DO?
I'M NOT WORRIED. I KNOW THEM. I AM CERTAIN THEY WILL SAVE THEM BOTH.

WHAM
THIS IS DEFINITELY THE LAST BOSS'S LAIR... THIS IS GONNA BE A TOUGH NUT TO CRACK.
I'M SORRY...
!
YEAH... AND THE SHADOWS I'M DETECTING ARE REALLY STRONG.
THAT WAS REI-CHAN'S VOICE.

IF I HADN'T BEEN SO SELFISH...
I'M SORRY, ZEN.
I'M SO SORRY, EVERY-ONE.
I WONDER IF ANYONE... HAS A REASON TO BE ALIVE.
REI-CHAN... HER PAIN MUST BE UNBEAR-ABLE...
...OR SO I THOUGHT.
UNTIL I MET REI.
NOW... I DON'T KNOW.
...WHY DO YOU NEED A REASON? YOU'RE ALIVE, AND YOU'RE HERE.
WITH OR WITHOUT A REASON, THAT DOESN'T CHANGE.

IDEALLY SOMEONE WE CARE ABOUT... YOU KNOW?
YEAH. WE ALL WANT SOMEONE WHO NEEDS US, WHO TRUSTS US.
WE WANT SOME JUSTIFICATION FOR BEING HERE.
IT'S NOT ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS A REASON. PEOPLE WANT A REASON.
NO ONE CAN LIVE ALONE.
NO ONE CAN LIVE ALONE...
YEAH... THAT'S WHAT I THINK, TOO.
MAYBE WE GET THROUGH LIFE DAY BY DAY, BY SUPPORTING EACH OTHER, WORKING TOGETHER, CHEERING EACH OTHER ON.

IT'S OKAY. I'M HERE WITH YOU.
YOU'RE NOT ALONE.
I'M...NOT ALONE...
COME ON, LET'S GO.
RIGHT.

THE TIME HAS COME ...
KHOOOHH...
オオオ...
OUR DUTIES MUST BE FULFILLED ...

ZIODYNE!
FLASH
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
THEY JUST WON'T STOP COMING.
BUT... CHRONOS AND ZEN-KUN ARE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME PERSON, RIGHT? THEN WHY WOULD THEY BE TRYING TO EXTERMINATE ZEN-KUN, TOO?

THIS WORLD DOESN'T NEED ME.
...I AM ONLY ONE OF MANY COGS IN THIS MACHINE.
BA-SHOOM
WAIT, WHAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THIS WORLD HAS ITS OWN NATURAL ORDER.
EVEN CHRONOS MUST ABIDE BY ITS LAWS.
WHEN I LOCKED MYSELF HERE WITH REI AND SEALED AWAY MY POWERS, I DISRUPTED THE BALANCE, AND SET THIS WORLD ON A PATH TO DESTRUCTION.

THE TIME FOR THIS HAVEN IN THE RIFT TO BE OBLITERATED.
NOW THE TIME HAS COME—
SO THE CHRONOS THAT I SEALED AWAY IS NOW SET TO AWAKEN BEFORE THIS WORLD'S END.
...WE WILL DISAP-PEAR.
OUR VERY EXIS-TENCES WILL BE ERASED.
NO ONE WILL REMEMBER THAT ANY OF YOU EVER WAS.
WOW, OBLITERA-TION, HUH...
HUH?! JUAT A—WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO US? AND YOU? AND REI-CHAN?!

THAT IS CORRECT. IT WILL BE AS IF YOU HAD NEVER BEEN BORN.
WE... WOULD NEVER HAVE EXISTED?
WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF CHRONOS AWAKENS?
...WHAT?!
THAT'S WHY HE KIDNAPPED REI—TO LURE ME TO THE CLOCK TOWER.
HE USED ALL OF YOU, TOO...AS BAIT.
HE WILL ASSIMILATE ME.
HE WILL RETURN TO HIS ORIGINAL, COMPLETE, STATE. HE'LL ERASE THIS WORLD, AND REI WITH IT.

BAIT?
BA-SHOOM
CHRONOS...
...WAS THE ONE WHO SUMMONED YOU HERE FROM YOUR WORLDS.
FSHHH...

TO MAKE YOU TRAVERSE THE LABYRINTHS ...
...SO I WOULD GET MY MEMORIES BACK.

CHRONOS CHOSE YOU
BECAUSE YOU HAD THE POWER TO DO JUST THAT.

I SEE... SO WE BECAME HIS PERFECT LITTLE PAWNS.
BUT NOW WE'RE GOING WITH YOU TO HUNT HIM DOWN. IS THAT PART OF HIS PLAN, TOO?

NO...I DOUBT IT.
WHEN I GOT MY MEMORIES BACK, I WAS SUPPOSED TO ERASE REI AND THE WORLD I CREATED.
BECAUSE YOU'VE CHANGED, ZEN.
CHANGED ...?
NO...
BUT YOU HAVEN'T DONE THAT.
YEAH, MAYBE YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED, BUT YOU'RE DIFFERENT.
AND THAT'S ALL IT TOOK TO MESS UP CHRONOS'S PLAN.
I DON'T LIKE THIS IDEA OF HIM PLAYING GOD WITH US.
I DON'T REALLY GET IT, BUT BASICALLY WE JUST HAVE TO TAKE HIM OUT, RIGHT?
RIGHT! RETREAT ISN'T AN OPTION HERE.
ARF!

GWAH
YOU WOULD ...
FLASH
IF ANYBODY CAN DO THIS, WE CAN.

CLACK
SO THESE STAIRS WILL TAKE US TO THE TOP FLOOR...

I'VE NEVER LIVED MYSELF. COULD I POSSIBLY HAVE AN ANSWER?
WILL I BE ABLE TO TELL HER WHY SHE LIVED?
I'VE BEEN THINKING... ABOUT WHAT I SHOULD SAY TO REI.
WHAT'S WRONG?
...

YOU'VE BEEN WITH HER THROUGH EVERYTHING, ZEN. IF ANYONE CAN GET THROUGH TO HER, YOU CAN.
JUST TELL HER HOW YOU HONESTLY FEEL, IN YOUR OWN WORDS.

AFTER WATCHING YOU ALL HERE...I'VE COME TO UNDERSTAND SOMETHING.
...

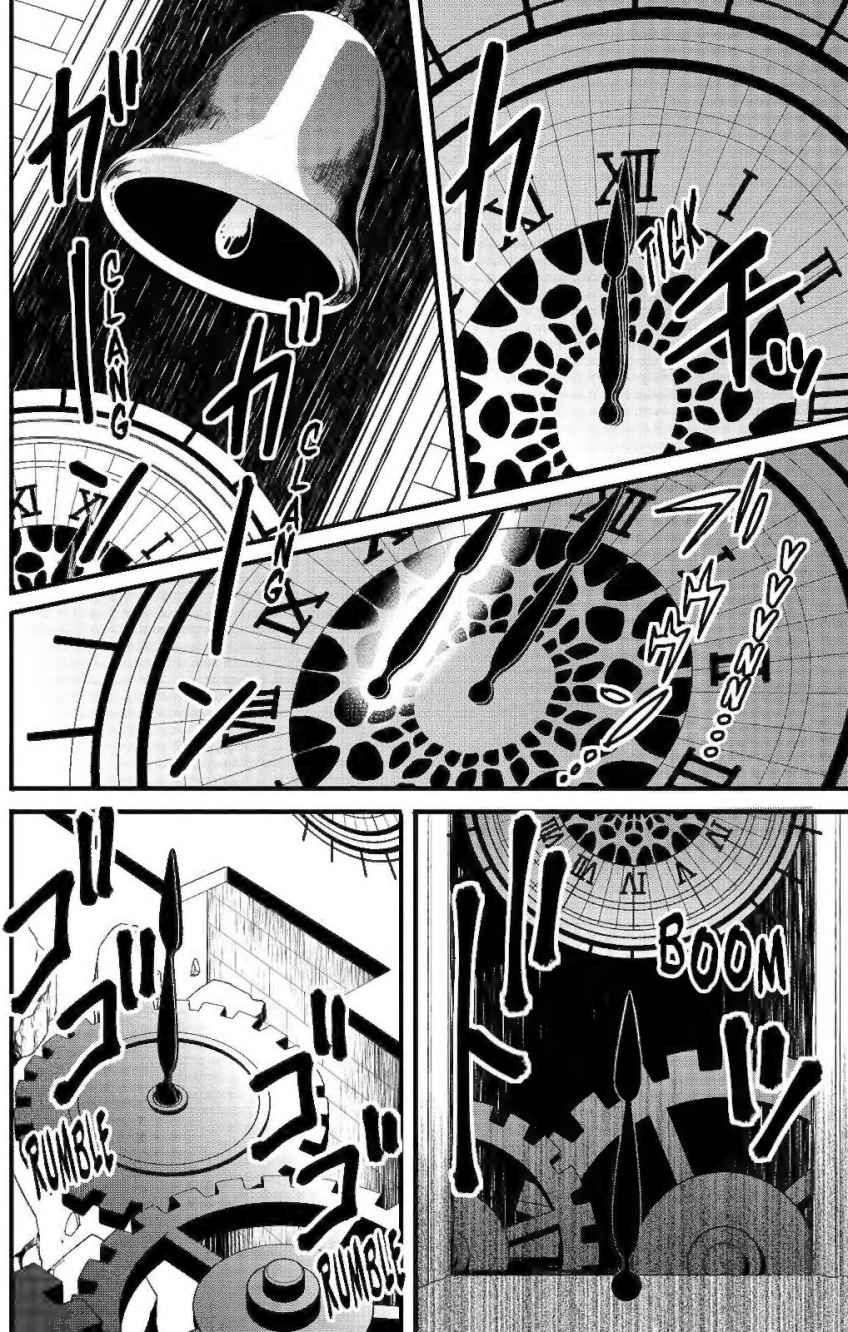
YOUR ENCOUNTERS WITH OTHERS CHANGE YOU... I CHANGED WHEN I MET YOU.
TO LIVE IS TO CHANGE.
UH-HUH... I AGREE.
YEAH... THAT'S RIGHT.
TO LIVE... I BELIEVE **THAT** IS THE MISSION OF THOSE WHO ARE GIVEN LIFE.
I BELIEVE EVERYONE HAS SIGNIFICANCE.
BUT NOW I THINK I KNOW. THE FACT THAT REI LIVED WAS THE MEANING OF HER LIFE.
REI CRIED BECAUSE SHE WANTED MEANING IN HER LIFE.
I COULDN'T GIVE HER THAT.

YOU ALL HAVE CHANGED SOMEONE, TOO.
YOU ALL ARE HELPING SOMEONE TO LIVE.
I BELIEVE THAT THAT
IS THE REASON YOU ALL LIVED.

I MUST HAVE CALLED YOU ALL HERE.
THANK YOU.
MEETING YOU WAS MY DESTINY... AND MY SALVATION.
I WANT TO BELIEVE THAT I CALLED YOU HERE, NOT AS PAWNS FOR CHRONOS, BUT FOR ME.
NOW LET'S GO.
CLACK

ARE ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ?!
REI!
ZEN ...?

WHAT A RELIEF! ARE YOU UNHURT?! CAN YOU WALK?
NO...
HUH ?
RUN... RUN... AWAY...
BE CARE-FUL!
I'M PICKING UP A READING... SOMETHING'S COMING!!
RUN...


TICK
CLANG
CLANG
BOOM
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

BWAH
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
...IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.

CHRONOS
!!
TO BE CONTINUED